THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) (a) DDA has reported that approximately 1400 acres of DDA land is under encroachment/unauthorized occupation by jhuggi jhonpari clusters, unauthorized colonies etc.

(b) DDA has also reported that when any irregularity is reported, action is taken as per DDA conduct rules.

(c) DDA has reported that eviction/demolition programme are carried out from time to time to reclaim the encroached DDA land. During the period from April 2002 to March 2004, DDA has reclaimed 433.98 acres of land.

Water supply in Delhi

2148. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that areas adjoining Delhi are not getting purified drinking water;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) (a) to (c) The NCR Planning Board has informed that the States of Haryana and Uttar Pradesh have indicated that the areas in the respective
States adjoining Delhi are being supplied with potable drinking water. *f* With a view to augment the existing drinking water supply, the NCR Planning Board has sanctioned loan amounting to Rs. 376.91 crores to the concerned State Governments for 17 drinking water projects in the National Capital Region.

Expenditure on construction of houses

†2149**.** SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the expenditure incurred on the co.istruction of houses has been constantly increasing for the past few years;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, to what extent the expenditure on construction has increased during 2005-06 in comparison to 2001-02;

(c) the reasons for this increase; and

(d) the contribution of various factors on this increase?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per the Construction Cost Index being computed and maintained by Central Public Works Department, the Construction Cost Index for the year 2004-05 for Delhi is 209 as against 166 in the year 2001-2002 (Base year is 1991-1992). Thus there has been a rise of about 26% in the Construction Cost Index for the year 2004-2005 in comparison to Year 2001-2002.

(c) The reasons for the increase in cost of construction is the rise in the market price of various commodities used in construction such as bricks cement, steel, timber, sand, aggregate building fitting and fixture, etc. and the increase in the wages being paid to the labour involved in construction. Rise in cost of fuel, local law and order situation, shortage of materials etc. are other reasons for rise in construction costs.

(d) On the average the percentage contribution of some major elements, to the increase in cost of construction is as given in Statement.

Statement

Various factors responsible for increase in construction cost

SI. No.	Name of Items	Rate as on 1.6.2001	Rate as on 1.4.2004	Increase of percentage
1.	Bricks	1450.00	1500.00	3.44%
2.	Cement (OPC)	250.00	270.00	8.00%
3.	Steel	1637.50	2582.50	56.48%
4.	Aggregate 20 MM size	425.00	580.00	36.47%
5.	Sand (Coarse sand)	400.00	550.00	37.50%
6.	Paints	63.00	66.50	5.55%
7.	Ply and Comm. Wood	327.00	478.50	46.33%
8.	Pipes	68.83	128.39	86.53%

SI. No.	Name of Items	Rate as on 1.6.2001	Rate as on 1.4.2004	Increase of percentage
9.	Lamps & fans	531.75	549.35	3.30%
10.	Elect. Machinery	30900.00	32000.00	3.55%
11.	Wires & Cables	419.22	910.00	117.06%
12.	Labour	101.50	115.25	13.54%

Migration of people to Urban Areas

2150. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be please to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that uneducated and unskilled migrants from rural areas face difficulties in getting adequate employment opportunity in the cities and towns;

(b) the steps taken by Government to provide them guidance to save them from exploitation and misery; and

(c) whether Government would set up a separate cells for registering such entrants in the cities/towns and organise meetings/informative sessions to inform them of the available opportunities and their rights?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (c) Acknowledging the fact of lack of employment opportunities for the unskilled urban poor, who may or may not have migrated from the rural areas, the Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY), the employment oriented urban poverty alleviation programme of the Central Government stresses upon the skill training/upgradation of the urban poor to make them better equipped for self-employment or wage employment;

The community empowerment is the focal theme of the scheme of SJSRY. Under this, community development societies take the initiative to generate awareness among the urban poor about the programmes of the Government, available opportunities for the urban poor and their rights.

Stamp Duty on Reality Transaction

2151. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD:

Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are seriously thinking of slashing stamp duty